

Table 1. Immunohistochemical localization of proteins during spermiation

Protein (<i>GENE</i>)	Summary	Localization ^a			Cell expression	Possible function	Refs.*
		<i>Before</i>	<i>Stage VII</i>	<i>Stage VIII</i>			
14-3-3 family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - family containing 7 isoforms expressed in most tissues with >200 binding partners - regulatory proteins which bind to various signalling molecules - 14-3-3β binds TESK1¹²² - 14-3-3θ expressed with a shortened 3'UTR in Sertoli cells¹²³, and localized to the apical ES¹²⁴ - knockdown of 14-3-3θ in primary Sertoli cells disrupts N-Cadherin and ZO-1 localization¹²⁴ - function of 14-3-3 family in testis reviewed in¹²⁵ 	14-3-3 θ : localized with spermatids at all stages ¹²⁴	14-3-3 θ : D ¹²⁴	14-3-3 θ : almost undetectable ¹²⁴	14-3-3 θ : GC > SC ¹²⁴	ES Signalling - early	124, 126
Actin (<i>ACT</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - endogenous protein to eukaryote cells - individual G-actin subunits assemble into F-actin polymers - polymerisation of actin subunits can form microfilaments in the cytoplasm providing mechanical support, signal transduction, formation of specialised intracellular structures for endocytosis and phagocytosis. - cytochalasin D used to disrupt actin filaments in the testis¹²⁷ 	all stages	D, V, R	A	SC + GC	ES TBC Adhesion - entire	24, 128
Afadin myeloid/lymphoid or mixed-lineage leukemia (trithorax homolog, <i>Drosophila</i>); translocated to 4 (<i>MLTT4</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nectin- and actin-filament binding protein that connects nectin to the actin cytoskeleton - regulates cell-cell adhesions downstream of Ras activation - localization is dependent upon Nectin 2 in testis²⁸ - component of the N-cadherin/β-catenin/α-actinin/actin complex at ES²⁸ 	all stages ²⁸	NA, likely D, V ²⁸	NA	NA, likely SC ²⁸	ES	28
Amphiphysin 1 (<i>AMPH</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - linker between clathrin and dynamin; recruits dynamin to clathrin - implicated in phosphatidylserine-dependent phagocytosis in Sertoli cells¹²⁹ and TBC formation⁹⁹ - <i>Amph</i>^{-/-} mice demonstrate reduced TBC number and impaired spermiation⁹⁹ - associated with Rac1 and Cdc42 signalling pathways⁹⁷ 	with eST from VI ⁹⁹	V ⁹⁹	Absent ⁹⁹	SC ¹²⁹	TBC	99, 129-131

Aquaporin (AQP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - family of integral membrane proteins that form pores within the membrane and transport small molecules - possible roles in recycling surplus cytoplasmic components of elongated spermatids ¹⁰⁹ 	AQP11: in association with eST ¹⁰⁹	AQP11: residual eST cytoplasm ¹⁰⁹	AQP11: residual body ¹⁰⁹	AQP11: eST ¹⁰⁹	Potential role in spermatid cytoplasm remodelling	¹⁰⁹
Arp2/3 complex actin related protein 2/3 complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - seven subunit complex, each of which is expressed in the testis ⁶⁰ - couples nucleation and branching of actin filaments with nucleation promoting factor proteins, including n-WASP and cortactin (reviewed in ¹³²) - disrupted Arp2/3 expression in a model of spermiation failure ¹³³ - inhibition of WASP activation, and Arp2/3 branching resulted in mis-orientation of spermatids <i>in vivo</i> ²⁶ - component of n-WASP/amphiphysin/actin complex in testis ⁹⁷ 	absent	V,R ²⁶	Absent ²⁶	SC	TBC	24, 133-135
Cadherin family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large family of transmembrane proteins with important roles in cellular adhesion - family includes cadherins, protocadherins, desmogleins, and desmocollins - contain extracellular “cadherin repeats” with Ca²⁺ binding domains - N-Cadherin expressed within the Sertoli cell ¹³⁶ - Testicular review ¹³⁷. Conjecture over the presence of apical ES cadherin content based on subtype localization during spermiation - PanCad antibody which recognises a conserved Cadherin domain has been used to immunolocalise cadherins in the testis ³⁷ 	NA	PanCad around elongated spermatid ^{37, 53}	PanCad around elongated spermatid ³⁷	SC + GC	Unknown Cadherin <i>may</i> be present: Adhesion-entire	^{53, 29}
β Catenin (CTNN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - catenins (including α, β, γ and δ) are a small family of proteins - β-catenin is a subunit of the cadherin complex and has implications as a co-factor in Wnt signalling - binds actin/xyxin/WASP complex by co-IP ¹⁰¹ 	localized near clusters of eSTs ⁶⁷	A ³⁷	A ^{37, 67}	SC ¹⁰⁵	Adhesion - entire	^{37, 67}
Cathepsin (CTS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - family of proteases activated at low pH; generally function as proteases in lysosomes - CTSL is a secretory product of Sertoli cells ^{138, 139} and is stimulated by FSH ¹⁴⁰ - <i>Furless</i> mice which contain a point mutation in CTSL have increased tubule atrophy, reduced germ cells, but fertile ¹⁴¹ suggesting redundancy with other cathepsin family members 	CTSD: associated with the acrosome ¹⁴² CTSK: Sertoli cell stalk, granular ¹⁴³ CTSL: associated with eST ¹⁴³	CTSK: Sertoli cell stalk, granular ¹⁴³ CTSL: V, D ^{138, 143}	CTSK: Sertoli cell stalk, granular ¹⁴³ CTSL: associated with eST ¹⁴³	CTSD: SC ¹⁴⁴ CTSK: SC ¹⁴³ CTSL: SC ^{145, 146}	Protease – entire	

CDC42 cell division cycle 42 (GTP binding protein, 25kDa) (CDC42)	- small GTPase of the Rho subfamily - activity stimulated by TGF β in primary Sertoli cells ¹⁴⁷ - expression of dominant negative mutant blocked endocytosis and junction turnover in primary Sertoli cells ¹⁴⁷ - directly binds and activates n-WASP for filopodia formation ¹⁴⁸	all stages ¹⁴⁷	A ^{126, 147}	A ^{126, 147}	SC + GC ¹⁴⁷	ES, Signalling - entire	126, 147
Clathrin (CLHC)	- facilitates the formation of small vesicles from the cell membrane - requires adapter and partner proteins for recruitment to plasma membrane and endocytotic function - siRNA to CLHC in primary Sertoli cells reduces junction endocytosis ¹⁴⁹	NA	V, F ²²	NA	SC + GC	TBC ²²	EM ²²
Cofilin 1 (CFL1)	- calcium dependent F-actin-depolymerising protein - phosphorylated by LIMK ¹⁵⁰ , TESK1 ¹⁵¹ and TESK2 ¹⁵² , contributing to actin cytoskeletal remodelling in cell lines - both cofilin isoforms expressed in the testis, although CFL1 is predominant ²⁵ - may form part of a RhoB/ROCK/LIMK/CFL axis in the testis ¹⁵³	NA	V, R ²⁵	NA ²⁵	unknown, likely SC	TBC	25
Connexin 43 (GJA1)	- component of Gap Junctions - Sertoli cell specific knockout has spermatogonial arrest ¹⁵⁴ , reduced gap junctions, but functional tight junctions ¹⁵⁵	associated with spermatids as they penetrate SC crypt ¹⁵⁶	A ^{154, 156}	A, absent late VIII ¹⁵⁶	SC	Membrane channels	154, 156
Cortactin (CTTN)	- class II action nucleation-promoting factor which activates the Arp2/3 complex ¹³² for actin branching - reduction in cortactin levels ¹³⁵ and increased tyrosine phosphorylation following anti-androgen or –estrogen treatment ¹³⁴	NA	V, R ²²	D ²²	SC	TBC, Adhesion - entire	22, 133-135
CSK c-src tyrosine kinase (CSK)	- tyrosine kinase that phosphorylates and controls the activity of pp60src - immunoprecipitates with cadherin/catenin proteins ¹⁵⁷	Yes ¹⁵⁷	D ^{67, 157, 158}	D ^{67, 157, 158}	SC (+ GC?)	ES Signalling - entire	67, 157, 158
Desmoglein (DSG)	- desmosomal cadherins are calcium binding transmembrane proteins - four family members; -1, -2 and -4 expressed in the testis ¹⁵⁹ - DSG-2 co-IP with c-SRC in the testis ¹⁵⁹	Yes ⁶⁷	V ⁶⁷	V but removed in late VIII ⁶⁷	SC ¹⁵⁹ and sperm ⁶⁷	ES Adhesion - early	67

Dynamin (DNM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - family of three GTP binding proteins associated with microtubules - implicated in formation of a variety of actin based cellular events, including endocytosis - DNM2 implicated in phosphatidylserine-dependent phagocytosis in Sertoli cells¹²⁹ and TBC formation⁹⁹ - DNM3 tubularises cellular membranes²⁴ 	DNM2: concentrated in regions where the acrosome is related to the nucleus ²⁴ DNM3: No ²⁴	DNM2: V ^{99, 129} DNM3: V, R ²⁴	No	SC + GC	DNM2: TBC DNM3: TBC	DNM2: localization 99, 129, 160 DNM3: localization 22, 24
EEA1 early endosome antigen 1 (EEA1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - contains FYVE domain which binds PtdIns3P with high specificity and affinity in early endosomes - early endosomes are cellular compartments that receive and sort endocytosed materials for degradation or recycling 	NA	V, F ²⁹	NA	Not reported, likely SC ²⁹	TBC	NA
EPS8 epidermal growth factor receptor pathway substrate 8 (EPS8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - participates in actin-based motility by capping barbed ends of actin filaments¹⁶¹ - transduces signals from Ras to Rac¹⁶² - RNAi in primary Sertoli cells leads to mislocalization of TJ protein components¹⁶³ - <i>Eps8</i>^{-/-} fertile¹⁶² 	from stage V ¹⁶³	V ¹⁶³	V, low levels ¹⁶³	SC apical and basal sites ¹⁶⁴	Adhesion - early TBC	Expression 163, 164 Localization 163
ERK extracellular signal-regulated kinase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - widely expressed protein kinase intracellular signalling molecules - active ERK significantly increased in tubules during spermiation¹²⁶ - reviewed in¹⁶⁵ 	NA	ERK and p-ERK in apical cytoplasm ¹²⁶	ERK and p-ERK: strong localization in association with spermatids ¹²⁶ .	SC	Signalling - entire	126 Many others
Espin (ESPN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - links actin filaments into hexagonal bundles¹⁶⁶ - espin mutant "Jerker males" fertile¹⁶⁷ - FSH stimulates the recruitment of espin into the ES in primary SC¹⁶⁸ 	Yes, from step 8 ¹⁶⁶	V, D ^{35, 166}	Disappears early VIII ¹⁶⁶	SC apical and basal ES	ES	35, 36, 58, 166
Fimbrin (PLS1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - actin bundling protein - may be involved in cross-linking ctin filaments in the ES 	NA. Likely from step 8 ¹⁶⁹	NA	NA	NA	ES ¹⁶⁹	169
FAK focal adhesion kinase 1/protein tyrosine kinase 2 (PTK2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - focal adhesion related protein kinase involved in cellular adhesion to extracellular matrices and cell spreading - phosphorylated in response to integrin engagement, acts as a central hub of focal adhesion function - remains associated with spermatid up until the point of disengagement, together with integrins⁵⁵ - remains localized to spermatids that fail to release⁵⁵ 	Yes, from step 8 ⁵⁶	FAK: basal sites only pFAK-Tyr ³⁹⁷ : D, V pFAK-Tyr ⁵⁷⁶ : D, V ⁵⁶	FAK: basal sites only pFAK-Tyr ³⁹⁷ and pFAK-Tyr ⁵⁷⁶ around spermatid ⁵⁶ , shifts to D in VIII ⁵⁵	SC	ES Signalling - entire	55, 56

FYN FYN oncogene related to SRC (FYN)	- protein tyrosine kinase, with an important role in cell proliferation and differentiation - interacts with PI3K - fyn knockout mice fertile, although transient reduction in testis weight during development and degenerating germ cells observed with ES abnormalities ¹⁷⁰	Yes ¹⁷⁰	NA ¹⁷⁰	Sertoli cell 'stalk' pattern, and around spermatid head ¹⁷⁰	SC ¹⁷⁰	ES Signalling. - entire	170
GALECTIN lectin, galactoside-binding, soluble (LGALS)	- family of carbohydrate binding proteins - LGALS3 stimulated by FSH in cultured primary Sertoli cells ¹⁷¹	LGALS1: yes ¹⁷² LGALS3: yes ¹⁷¹	LGALS1: D, V ⁷⁶ LGALS3: NA ¹⁷¹	LGALS1: D, V ⁷⁶ LGALS3: NA ¹⁷¹	LGALS1: SC ¹⁷² > GC ¹⁷² LGALS3: SC ¹⁷¹ > GC ¹⁷¹	LGALS1: ES, Adhesion - entire	
KEAP1 kelch-like ECH-associated protein 1 (KEAP1)	- binds nuclear transcription factor Nrf2 and retains it in the cytoplasm, inhibiting nuclear function ¹⁷³ - binds myosin-VIIa at the ES ¹⁷³	Yes ¹⁷³	Localized around spermatid head ¹⁷³	NA	SC	ES Adhesion - early	173
Integrin (ITG)	- family of transmembrane receptors that mediate cellular attachment and cell signalling - bind to fibronectin, vitronectin, collagen and laminin - consists of heterodimer between α and β subunit - $\alpha 6 \beta 1$ predominant heterodimer in testis ^{55, 126} , likely mediating attachment to laminin on spermatid ⁵⁹ - $\alpha 6 \beta 1$ remains associated with spermatid up until the point of disengagement, together with FAK ⁵⁵	Yes ^{57, 58, 174}	$\beta 1$: eST head ^{53, 57, 58, 174} $\alpha 6$: eST head ^{58, 174}	$\beta 1$: D ^{53, 57, 58, 174} $\alpha 6$: D ^{58, 174}	SC	ES Adhesion - entire	37, 53, 55
ILK Integrin linked-kinase (ILK)	- interacts with β -integrins; acts as a receptor kinase regulating integrin-induced signal transduction ⁵³ - IP with $\beta 1$ integrin in testis ⁵³ - removed from spermiation machinery prior to FAK and integrins ⁵⁵	from step 8 spermatids ⁵³	D, F ⁵³	Absent ³⁷	SC	ES Adhesion - early	53
JAM junctional adhesion molecule (JAM)	- JAM family members are typically associated with tight junctions in epithelial tissues, although JAM3 is associated with adherens junctions ¹⁷⁵ - JAM2 and JAM3 colocalise around spermatids in the testis and may form an interaction between Sertoli cells and spermatids ¹⁷⁵ - JAM3 is essential for the differentiation of rST to eST in mice ¹⁷⁵ - JAM3 co-IP with CAR ¹⁷⁶ and Pals1 ¹⁰⁵ in testis	JAM2 and JAM3: From rST polarisation onwards ¹⁷⁵	JAM2: NA JAM3: D – spermatid ¹⁷⁵	NA	JAM2: SC ¹⁷⁵ JAM3: eST > SC ¹⁷⁵	ES Adhesion – entire (spermatid)	175

Laminin family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - binds integrin and MMPs by co-IP¹⁰⁴ - various laminin forms expressed in the testis; laminin-α3, -β3, -γ3 co-IP with β1-integrin in the testis⁵⁹ 	γ 3: expressed by eST from XIII ¹⁰⁴	α 3: D – spermatid ⁵⁹ γ 3: D – spermatid ^{59, 104}	α 3: D – spermatid ⁵⁹ γ 3: D – spermatid ^{59, 104}	eST	ES Adhesion – entire (spermatid)	104
MEK MAP Kinase / ERK kinase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - widely expressed kinases that belong to the MAP kinase kinase family - phosphorylate ERK to mediate downstream signals 	prominent in germ cell cytoplasm ¹²⁶ not reported at developing ES	V, D ¹²⁶	Weak staining; V, D ¹²⁶	PSC >> SC	Signalling - entire	126
MMP Matrix metallo-protease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - family of zinc-dependent proteases capable of degrading extracellular matrices - MMP-2 and TIMP-2 stimulated by FSH in Sertoli cell¹⁷⁷ - MMP-2 stimulated by retinol and retinoic acid in Sertoli cell¹⁷⁸ - MT1-MMP and MMP-2 co-IP with laminin components¹⁰⁴ - Pro- and active-forms of MMPs present in whole testis isolates¹⁰⁴ - MMP-9 also expressed¹⁰⁴ - numerous MMPs expressed in fetal testis¹⁷⁹ 	MT1-MMP: throughout spermatogenesis ^{104, 177} MMP-2: associated with PSC and rST ¹⁰⁴ TIMP2: associated with PSC and rST ¹⁰⁴	MT1-MMP: V, D ^{104, 177} MMP-2: V, D ¹⁰⁴ TIMP2: V, D ¹⁰⁴	MT1-MMP: V, D ^{104, 177} MMP-2: V, D ¹⁰⁴ TIMP2: V, D ¹⁰⁴	SC + GC	Protease - entire	
MYOSIN (MYO7A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - superfamily of motor proteins responsible for actin based motility - Myh9 expressed in Sertoli cells and phosphorylated with FSH signalling¹⁸⁰ - MyosinVIIa expressed is association with the basal and apical ES^{173, 181} 	at site of ES with spermatid at all stages ¹⁷³	MYO7a: V, D ^{173, 181}	NA	SC ¹⁷³	ES Adhesion - early	173, 181
NECTIN poliovirus receptor-related 2 (PVRL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nectins are a family of Ca²⁺-independent cell-cell adhesion molecules, which homo- and hetero-dimerise and cause cell-cell adhesion - nectin-based cell-cell adhesion induces activation of Cdc42 and Rac proteins, which regulate adherens junction formation by reorganizing the actin cytoskeleton - <i>Nectin 2</i>^{-/-} and <i>Nectin 3</i>^{-/-} mice have male specific infertility^{182, 183} - Nectins localize at distal end of TBC, suggestive of TBC internalization²⁹ 	NA	V, D ^{182, 183}	NA	PVRL2: SC PVRL3: GC	ES Adhesion - early	Localization 28, 29, 184

PAK p21 activated kinase (PAK)	- Serine/Threonine kinase signal transducers activated by direct binding by GTPase dependent (Rac and Cdc42) and independent (PKB and PDK1) mechanisms - coIP with c-Src, PDK1 and PKB in the testis ¹⁰²	localized with eST from stage VI ¹⁰²	V, D ¹⁰²	Reduced; V, D ¹⁰²	PAK1/2: Sertoli cell ¹⁰²	Signalling - early	102
PAR6 partitioning defective complex (PARD)	- Par proteins help establish cell polarity and may be central in the establishment or maintenance of TJs - Par3 and 6 are expressed in the testis; Par6 coIP with JAM3 and Pals1 ¹⁰⁵ - Par6 may mediate spermatid polarity in association with the Sertoli cell ¹⁷⁵	localized with eSTs at all stages ¹⁰⁵	V, D ¹⁰⁵	Absent ¹⁰⁵	SC > GC ¹⁰⁵	ES Signalling - early	105
Paxillin (PXN)	- focal adhesion associated protein implicated in cell signalling - coIP with vinculin and FAK ⁵³	diffuse SC localization	V, A ⁵³	D ⁶⁷	SC > rST ⁶⁷	TBC ⁵³ , Signalling-entire	53, 67
PI-3 kinase phosphoinositide-3-kinase (PIK3)	- PI3Ks are a family of intracellular signal transducing enzymes that phosphorylate phosphatidylinositol molecules to regulate downstream signalling - coIP with β 1-integrin, FAK, p-FAK Tyr ³⁹⁷ , paxillin, p130Cas, vinculin, and Gelsolin in testis lysates ¹⁰² - inactive p110 β transgenic mice exhibit male specific sub-fertility ¹⁸⁵	p85 α : from step 8 spermatid ¹⁰² p110 β : NA	p85 α : V, D ¹⁰² p110 β : NA	p85 α : V, D ¹⁰² p110 β : NA	p85 α : SC + GC ¹⁰² p110 β : SC + GC ¹⁸⁵	ES Signalling - entire	102, 185
PI(4,5)P2 Phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate	- membrane bound phospholipid; acts as a substrate for signal transduction - phosphorylated by PI-3 kinases, and dephosphorylated by PTEN	localized around eST ¹⁸⁶	NA	NA	NA	ES (other localization unknown)	186
Protein Kinase B v-akt murine thymoma viral oncogene (AKT)	- family of serine/threonine kinases, also known as Akt - regulator of numerous cell survival pathways - coIP with PAK, Actin, Vimentin and α -tubulin in the testis ¹⁰² - phosphorylation stimulated by IL-1 β ¹⁸⁷ , FSH ¹⁸⁸⁻¹⁹⁰ , cAMP ^{188, 190} and IGF-1 ^{190, 191} in SC	PKB and p-PKB-Ser ⁴⁷³ in association with ES throughout ¹⁰²	PKB and p-PKB-Ser ⁴⁷³ : V, D ¹⁰²	PKB and p-PKB-Ser ⁴⁷³ : D, reduced in late VIII ¹⁰²	SC + GC ^{102, 192}	ES Signalling - early	193, 194
Phospholipase C (PLC)	- family of phospholipid lipases - cleave PIP2 into DAG and IP3; thought to stimulate cellular Ca ²⁺ and PKC activity - PLC β 1 gene disruption causes infertility ¹⁹⁵	PLC γ : Absent prior to spermiation ¹⁸⁶	PLC γ : V, D ¹⁸⁶	NA	PLC γ : SC ¹⁸⁶	Signalling - early (localization after ES removal not described)	186

PTEN phosphatase and tensin homolog (<i>PTEN</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - phosphatase of PIP3 (PI3K pathway) and several actin related proteins, including FAK³⁹⁷ - stimulated by FSH in Sertoli cells¹⁹⁶ - Co-IP with Vimentin, α-Tubulin, Actin, PAK1,2 in seminiferous tubules⁴⁸ 	all stages ¹⁰²	V, D ¹⁰²	D ¹⁰²	SC + GC ^{102, 197}	ES. Signalling - entire	
RAB RAB4A, member RAS oncogene family RAB8A, member RAS oncogene family RAB12, member RAS oncogene family RAB14, member RAS oncogene family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - small RAS superfamily members with GTP binding and signalling activity; context and isoforms specific roles - RAB8A interacts with Myosin Vb and co-localises with EHD1 and EHD4¹⁹⁸ - RAB4A IP with α- and β-catenin, actin, vimentin, α- and β-tubulin, and protein kinase C¹⁹⁹ - RAB8A IP with actin, vimentin, α-tubulin and β-tubulin in SC²⁰⁰ - RAB13: IP with actin, vinculin, espin, and weakly with vimentin and γ-catenin²⁰¹ - Rab5 a marker of early endosomes in isolated Sertoli cells²⁰² 	RAB4A: with eST from at least stage IV ¹⁹⁹ RAB8A: stage XII spermatids ²⁰⁰ RAB12: associated with eST ²⁰³ RAB13: eST at all stages except VIII ²⁰¹	RAB4A: associated with eST ¹⁹⁹ RAB12: in association with eST ²⁰³ RAB13: associated with eST ²⁰¹	RAB4A: associated with eST ¹⁹⁹ Rab8a: not present ²⁰⁰ RAB12: not present ²⁰³ RAB13: not present ²⁰¹	Rab4A: SC > GC ¹⁹⁹ RAB8a: SC + GC ²⁰⁰ RAB12: SC ²⁰³ RAB13: SC + GC ²⁰¹	RAB4A: Signalling-entire ¹⁹⁹ RAB12; ES, Signalling early RAB13: ES, Signalling – early RAB8a: inconclusive	RAB4A: expression and localization ¹⁹⁹ RAB8B expression and localization ²⁰⁰
SRC v-src sarcoma (Schmidt-Ruppin A-2) viral oncogene homolog (<i>SRC/p60src/c-src</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tyrosine kinase whose activity is inhibited by CSK - Androgen Receptor binding to SRC may modulate ERK signalling pathways²⁰⁴ - administration of c-Src inhibitor induced the loss spermatocytes and round spermatids from the seminiferous epithelium¹⁵⁷ - immunoprecipitations with cadherin/catenin proteins¹⁵⁷ 	with round spermatids from step 9, increasing and maximal at VIII ²⁰⁵	D ⁶⁷	D ^{67, 205}	SC	Signalling - entire	67, 205, 206
TESTIN testis derived transcript (3 LIM domains) (<i>TESS</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - interacts with a variety of cytoskeletal proteins including zyxin, VASP and actin²⁰⁷ - loss of testin from focal adhesions results in loss of actin stress fibres in HeLa cells²⁰⁸ - SC expression modulated by germ cells²⁰⁹ - knockout viable, with increased incidence of tumours. NA fertility²¹⁰ 	with eSTs throughout, although most prominent at VIII ²¹¹	D and predominantly V ^{211, 212}	V, but absent prior to release ^{211, 212}	SC ²⁰⁹	Adhesion - entire	Localization ²¹¹
Vinculin (VCL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - membrane-cytoskeletal protein in focal adhesion plaques involved in the linkage of integrin to the actin cytoskeleton - recruitment to ES is FSH dependent¹⁶⁸ - coIP with p-FAK-Tyr³⁹⁷⁵⁶ and Paxillin⁵⁶ 	with round spermatids from step 8 ³⁶	V, D, A ^{36, 37}	Absent ^{36, 37}	SC > GC ^{56, 168}	ES Adhesion - early	37, 53, 56, 67, 126, 169, 213

n-WASP Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome-like (WASL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - actin nucleation promoting factor; participates in actin branching in combination with cortactin (reviewed ¹³²) - inhibition of WASP activation, and Arp2/3 branching results in mis-orientation of spermatids <i>in vivo</i> ²⁶ - knockout of n-WASP interacting partner exhibits male sterility ⁹⁸ - phosphorylated by FAK ²¹⁴, Rac1 and PIP2 ²¹⁵ 	No	v ^{22, 26}	Absent ²²	SC, basal and apical sites	TBC	
Zyxin (ZYX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zinc binding phosphoprotein; concentrates at focal adhesions ¹⁰¹ - IP with N-cadherin/b-catenin/α-actinin/actin complex ¹⁰¹ 	associated with eST ¹⁰¹	associated with ES ¹⁰¹	NA	GC > SC ¹⁰¹	ES	

* References can be found in the references list of the main manuscript found here: <http://www.landesbioscience.com/journals/spermatogenesis/article/14525/>

^a NA = no information available d = dorsal curvature, v = ventral curvature, A = diffuse staining of apical Sertoli cell cytoplasm, F = focal dots of staining, R = radial spoke-like pattern in inner ventral curvature.

^b Our view of the likely localization of the protein in the spermiation machinery based on available micrographs of the immunohistochemical localization. For the purpose of this analysis, the spermiation machinery is subdivided as follows:

ES : present at the SC-spermatid interface from step 8-19. Thus this protein remains associated with the ES structure and/or adhesion domain throughout spermiogenesis

Adhesion; early: Describes an adhesion or adhesion-associated protein that likely participates in adhesion early in the spermiation process, when the ES structure is present. Often, such proteins become more obvious between eST and SC near the time that spermiation is initiated (eg. Stages V-VII). Such proteins are not observed in mid-late stage VIII tubules prior to disengagement

Adhesion; entire: Describes an adhesion or adhesion-associated protein that likely participates in adhesion throughout the entire spermiation process, from the initiation in stage VII until disengagement late in stage VIII.

TBC: Describes a protein that is likely present at or within TBCs, based on a characteristic localization at the inner curvature of the spermatid head in stage VII

Signalling (early, or entire): Describes a signalling protein that is either present a) early in the spermiation process, when the ES structure is present but is not present just prior to disengagement in stage VIII(early); or b) is present throughout the entire spermiation process, from the initiation in stage VII until disengagement late in stage VIII

Protease (early, or entire): Describes a protease that is either present a) early in the spermiation process, when the ES structure is present but is not present just prior to disengagement in stage VIII(early); or b) is present throughout the entire spermiation process, from the initiation in stage VII until disengagement late in stage VIII

